

**Tompkins County Soil and Water Conservation District**  
**Monthly Staff Report**

**Name: Paul Gier**

**Months: January February**

**Agriculture (270.0 hrs)**

- A very busy and productive January and February! A high volume of interest and participation was spent updating Tier's I & II worksheets in order for our cooperators to take part in the Southern Tier Agricultural Industry Enhancement Program. The district processed 10 applications for a total grant money request of \$830,390.00. Projects are diverse and located throughout our Tompkins County geographic area. Reviewing the process and steps for creating Tier III plans that have resulted from meeting with cooperators seeking farmstead improvements. Site visits to existing cooperators looking to close out projects and begin new projects. Meeting with new clients interested in AEM participation as a result of increased agribusiness opportunities through STAIEP grant and/or new farmer incentives. Reviewing worksheets and District goals for remainder of 2015-2016.

**Water Quality ( 0 hrs)**

- I spent no time on Water Quality projects this month.

**Stormwater ( 0 hrs)**

- I spent no time working on Stormwater projects this month

**Invasive Species ( 0 hrs)**

I spent no time working on Invasive species projects

**District Operations ( 34 hrs)**

**Staff Meetings (\*Goal/Action/Activity)**

- Attending scheduled staff meetings during January & February.

**General Office operations**

- Answering phone calls, emails.
- SGW – receiving training and completing Soil Group Worksheets upon customer requests.
- Continued training on AEM Tier III planning.

**Personnel Development/Training (\* Goal/Action/Activity)**

- Attended Winter Manure Management and Soil Health Workshop Trainings in Cortland and Schuyler counties respectively. Have registered for upcoming trainings in Soil Management for Better Crops and Grazing and Pasture Management.

**Earned Income (0 hrs)**

**Education & Outreach ( 4 hours)**

- Presented a talk on Soil and Water Conservation Districts history and conservation programs including work performed through AEM.
- Participating with local Elementary School during a family reading night event; theme is gardening and conservation topics. Introducing kids to conservation concepts and New York State agriculture products and production levels.
- Participating in Envirothon event at Hobart and Smith College in Geneva and manning booth at New York State Fair representing Tompkins County.